

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 3 April 2008. It was the 235th regularly scheduled meeting since the Council was established in 1973.

1. Members present/absent and advisors and guests present were:

MEMBERS (Army Retiree, except as indicated)

PRESENT

COL Bob Bunting	CSM James W. Harris
COL James E. Hyers	SGM Sam McMaster
COL Charles A. Block	1SG Jackie Ray
COL Herman S. Heath	SFC Ralph E. Reed
CW4 Robert N. Cooper	SFC Bennett Jergenson
LTC James R. Mellish	Mrs. Marie Wilkins
LTC Carolyn Bost-Pittman	
LTC Clarence Collins	
CDR James E. Cobb	

MEMBERS ABSENT

MAJ Jack K. Swinehart	SFC Joseph Barnes
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ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Larese, Garrison CDR	Mrs. Gail Braley, AG
COL Kaminski, LAHC CDR	Mr. Chris Moore, RSO
Mr. George Steuber, Deputy Garrison CDR	Ms. Lin Rogers, Commissary
Mr. Tim Laster, DMWR	Mr. Mark Wonders, PAO
Ms. Diane Snodgrass, AAFES	

2. COL Bunting called the meeting to order at 1130.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
4. Old Business - None
5. Committee Reports.

- a. Public Affairs - Provided a calendar of events. Highlights included "Thunder on Tholocco" with the Red Star demonstration team and live shows. Also highlighted was the 25th Anniversary of Army Aviation, Senior Leader Panel, CSM Panel, UAS Building ribbon cutting

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ceremony, and the salute to the Branch. Other special events are the USAAMC and Garrison changes of command on 25 and 26 June, respectively.

b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported the social security offset to SBP is no longer effective as of 1 April 2008, there is a threat of a 10.6% cut in Medicare in three months if Congress takes no action, and there is a COLA watch in effect.

c. Health Care - CSM Harris stated that the VA Clinic opening ceremony was a huge success and COL Kaminski is to be congratulated on a superior job. COL Kaminski reported the VA clinic will offer more services in the future and he will coordinate a VA representative to make presentations to the Retiree Council on present and future services.

d. Consolidated Club System - A dinner with entertainment provided by EOCC students will be held 17 April at Aviator's Landing. "Bama Jam" tickets are being offered by DMWR for VIP and general admission packages.

e. Commissary - A case lot sale will take place on 2-4 May. Pepsi energy drinks and vitamin drinks will be available at "spin the wheel" (free drinks) in the PX area.

f. PX - "Wok Works" is closing and "Popeyes" chicken will occupy that space. The Garden Center has a great selection of outdoor plants and furniture. The new Joint Star MasterCard is coming soon and can be used everywhere.

g. Golf Course - Intramurals will be 6 May. Currently, there is a mole/cricket problem that exists on the course. Super demo day is 14-16 May. The golf membership drive and the snack bar will not open until the end of May, due to personnel turnover and septic tank problems. Additionally, a golf clinic will be held the end of May. Senior tees have been adjusted for members over-60. A fundraiser for wounded Soldiers will be held on 30 May.

h. Equestrian Center - COL Heath reported there is a dressage horse show on 5 April and an open horse show at 1000 on 19 April. There has been a default on the hay barn contract which resulted in an incomplete project, although three "U" stall barns are completed.

i. Outdoor Recreation - Turkey season is slow and only 25-30 turkeys have been killed. The fishing is good at Lake Tholocco. Buckhorn Lake will be closed for three months and Ech lake will remain open, however there is no fishing at Ech lake.

j. Bowling Alley - The furniture is being replaced this year and a contract for a new marquee is in progress. Boston Butts will be available for order every month because of the success of the previous Boston Butt sale. Please call Susie to reserve yours..

k. RAD - Approval was received to hold the annual RAD on 24-25 October. Mr.Ed Donnely will invite a speaker from the VA Clinic.

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6. Advisors' Comments

a. Mrs. Braley reported the ID card systems were down and the wait continues to be excessive. She suggested making an appointment before coming to the ID section.

b. Mr. Laster reported on the Thunder Tholocco drag boat race event on 26 April and also the cabins at west Lake Tholocco are now open for reservations.

c. COL Larese reported the Army Community ribbon cutting ceremony will be held 29 May. The change of command for COL Larese and COL Kelly will be held 26 June. The change of command for MG Packett will be held 1 July. Mr. Steuber reported April is Sexual Assault Prevention Month and there will be a presentation at the Post Theater on 22 April.

7. New Business - SMSgt (USAF) Jean A. Woodruff was voted to serve as a member of the Retiree Council. CDR Cobb and COL Block will no longer be on the council beginning 1 April and the council will need replacements for their positions. COL Bunting requested a Retiree Volunteer Support representative. He also presented COL Hyers a certificate for his volunteer work

8. The meeting adjourned at 1230. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators' Landing on 1 May at 1130.

Approved via-email

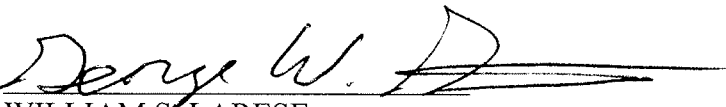
BOB BUNTING
COL, Retired
Co-Chairman

Approved via-email

CHARLES E. FRYE
CSM, Retired
Co-Chairman

Prepared By:

Carolyn Bost-Pittman
LTC, Retired
Secretary



WILLIAM S. LARESE
COL, AV
Garrison Commander